

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 MCT-01

ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8679

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 6885

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE, EG, IS

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS EGYPT, ANNOUNCES OPENING
OF PLO OFFICE

REF: (A) NAIROBI 4949, (B) CAIRO 9121 (NOTAL)

1. AS REPORTED CAIRO REFTEL, KENYAN-EGYPTIAN JOINT COM-
MUNIQUE ISSUED UPON CONCLUSION OF FOREIGN MINISTER WAIYAKI'S
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VISIT TO EGYPT REVEALS KENYAN DECISION TO PERMIT OPENING
OF PLO OFFICE, A DEVELOPMENT FORECAST IN APRIL BY EGYPTIAN
AMBASSADOR (REF A). THIS STEP REPRESENTS CONSIDERABLE GAIN
FOR THOSE IN KENYA WHO FAVOR CLOSER RELATIONS WITH ARAB
WORLD, SINCE KENYA HAS RETAINED CLOSE ECONOMIC AND SECURITY
TIES WITH ISRAEL DESPITE LACK OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS SINCE
1973. IT IMPLIES KENYAN WILLINGNESS TO DRAW DISTINCTION

BETWEEN PLO AND MORE EXTREME PALESTINIAN GROUPS SUCH AS PFLP;
KENYA HAS COOPERATED WITH ISRAEL AGAINST TERRORIST ACTIVITIES
OF LATTER.

2. LANGUAGE OF COMMUNIQUE ON ISRAEL IS PERHAPS ROUTINE
FROM ARAB VIEWPOINT, BUT IT GOES RATHER FAR FOR KENYA
IN DEPLORING "COOPERATION THAT EXISTS BETWEEN TWO RACIST
REGIMES IN ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA." THIS IS FIRST ECHO
OF RACISM-ZIONISM RESOLUTION WE HAVE SEEN KENYA ASSOCIATED
WITH SINCE THE 1975 GA DEBATE, ALTHOUGH KENYA MAY HAVE
ACQUIESCED IN MENTION OF IT IN MULTILATERAL CONTEXTS.

3. AS CARRIED IN NAORIBI PRESS, COMMUNIQUE CONTAINS STRONG
STATEMENT BY BOTH COUNTRIES URGING MOBILIZATION OF AFRICAN
RESOURCES "TO WARD OFF FOREIGN INTERVENTION AND TO SAFEGUARD
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ALL AFRICAN STATES." WE READ THIS
AS DISPLAY OF KENYAN AND EGYPTIAN LIKEMINDEDNESS REGARDING
SOVIET AND CUBAN ACTIVITIES IN SUCH SITUATIONS AS ZAIRE.
HOWEVER, LINKAGE BETWEEN STATEMENT AGAINST FOREIGN INTER-
VENTION AND STATEMENT SUPPORTING TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY HAS
THE EFFECT OF KEEPING KENYA'S OPTIONS OPEN WITH RESPECT TO
FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT IN ETHIOPIA. IT APPEARS SIGNIFICANT
THAT COMMUNIQUE OFFERS ONLY BLAND STATEMENT THAT "TWO SIDES
REVIEWED SITUATION IN HORN OF AFRICA," LEAVING EACH COUNTRY
FREE TO INTERPRET EVENTS THERE AS IT SEES FIT.

4. WE UNDERSTAND WAIYAKI HAS GONE ON TO ALGERIA FROM CAIRO,
WHERE HE WILL SEEK TO STRENGTHEN KENYA'S TIES WITH YET
ANOTHER ARAB COUNTRY.
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